



2019 Adult 18-39, 4.5 and above League Local Regulations Metropolitan Region

All captains and players are responsible for following these rules & regulations.

GOVERNING RULES:

USTA Adult leagues are divided into layers of organization: National, Sectional (Eastern), Regional (**Metro**), District (**Manhattan**), and then Divisions. Three levels of rules apply: The USTA League Tennis Regulations (National), the USTA Eastern rules (Section), and the Local Rules (**Metropolitan Region**). In addition, the USTA Code of Conduct applies. The local rules are to be read in a manner consistent with the Section and National rules whenever possible and are not intended to supplant those rules. The local rules are intended to identify only the most essential portions of the National and Section rules and only depart from those rules available at

https://www.usta.com/content/dam/usta/sections/eastern/pdfs/easternleagues/2019%20National%20%26%20Eastern%20Regulations%2011_5_2018.pdf

as authorized by the USTA and whenever deemed necessary and advisable by local league administration.

Any player who uses The Code to quote a rule during a match must be able to produce a copy of that rule at that time, as set out by The Code.

PLAYER PARTICIPATION/REGISTRATION:

1. Players must be members of the USTA through **8/31/2019**.
2. Players must be rated 4.5 or above
3. All players must register through Tennis Link at www.tennislink.usta.com/leagues.
4. **All participating team members must be registered prior to playing in a match.**

CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Make sure all players are registered through TennisLink and listed on an official roster.
2. **BOTH** home & visiting Captains are responsible for contacting each other **at least 2 days** prior to the match to confirm match site & start time.
3. Be present at every match **or assign an acting Captain**.
4. Prior to starting play, exchange lineups simultaneously **before the scheduled match start time**.
5. Sign both the scorecards after checking that the scores are written correctly. **BOTH team captains are responsible for inputting scores into Tennis Link within 48 hours**. The first team to report will input the scores, the next to report will "confirm or dispute" scores. Penalties may occur if scores are not inputted in a timely manner. Captains may forfeit their right to dispute a scorecard if they do not confirm match results in TennisLink.
6. The home team must supply a new unopened container of USTA approved balls for each individual match. The balls must be appropriate to the surface on which the match is to be played.

DEFAULTS:

A team that defaults a court without 48 hour notice may be responsible for paying the full cost for each court defaulted, as per each facility's policy. Home captains are responsible for cancelling courts in the event of a default.

MATCHES:

1. All matches are one court of mixed doubles, one men's singles and one women's singles. Each court shall be the best of three sets, with regular scoring used for the first two sets, and a set-tiebreak at 6-all. If the first two sets are split, a match tiebreak (first to 10 points by two) must be played in lieu of the third set. The final third set score will be entered as 1-0 for

the winning team. All tiebreaks (set & match) should follow "Coman" tiebreak procedure for switching sides (switch after 1st point...then every 4 points thereafter...5, 9, 13, etc.)

2. Both teams must agree on which clock will be used to determine the end of the match before play starts.
3. If, after the scorecards have been exchanged but prior to the first point of an individual match being played, a player becomes unable to play due to injury or illness, one substitution may be made using a rostered player.
4. It is the responsibility of the players to make sure they are on the correct court with the proper opponents. Captains should give their players the names of their opponents when sending them to their court. If there is an error in the matchups the home team's scorecard will take precedence. **All matches stand as played.**
5. In the case of injury, a one-time, **three (3) minute** suspension of play is allowed for that injury. An injured player shall not be permitted to leave the facility site. If the player leaves the court for a bathroom break or injury treatment, no coaching is allowed at that time.
6. The match officially starts when play of the first point is begun. If the match needs to be stopped due to any extraordinary circumstance, the original line up may be changed on a court that has **not** officially started play even if the players completed warm-up. A court that has begun a first point (the first ball is struck) must be completed by the original roster lineup.
7. The 15-minute default period begins with the scheduled starting time of the match. In extenuating circumstances, the local league coordinators may extend the default time. Captains should attempt to make contact with a coordinator for approval (extenuating circumstances would include, but not be limited to, extreme weather travel conditions, such as snowstorms, bridge or tunnel closings, fires, tornadoes and major street closings.)
8. If, during a league match, a dispute arises between the players about the accuracy of calling lines or other issues, any player may suspend the match to request a court monitor(s). The monitor(s) shall not independently make a line call or other ruling but may do so if requested by any players. The line call or ruling of the monitor(s) shall be final, and not appealable. If there are two court monitors on the court and they disagree regarding a call, the call made by the player(s) stands.
9. At the discretion of the USTA Local League Coordinator, a team that forfeits an entire match without due cause, or causes an invalid match to occur, will not be allowed to advance to playoffs. In addition, this team may not be permitted to participate in the league the following season. For a "valid" match a team must play a minimum of 2 courts.
10. Each court is worth one point in the standings. In the event of a tie in points at the end of the season, the tiebreaks are, in order: (1) head to head, (2) least sets lost, (3) least games lost.

TIMED MATCH PROCEDURE: (matches not completed within 2 hours)

FIVE MINUTE RULE: If 5 minutes or more remain before the end of the match, players MUST start and attempt to complete the next game/tiebreak. If less than 5 minutes remain, do NOT start a new game/tiebreak. Captains/Co-Captains may advise their players that less than 5 minutes remain.

A game or a tiebreak in progress should be completed unless circumstances make it impossible to do so (players are waiting to use the court, club maintenance staff is waiting for the courts or the club turns off the lights).

Scoring for Unfinished matches is as follows:

In the match (10 pt) tiebreak: Every attempt should be made to finish the match tiebreak. If it is impossible to finish the tiebreak, then the match is a tie with split sets. An **incomplete** match tiebreak does not count.

Split sets, with no time left to start the match tiebreak: The points for that court are split.

If the 2nd set is unfinished: Only completed games count.

The team that won the first set, and in the 2nd set the score is tied, wins all the points.

The team that won the first set and is ahead in the 2nd set by 1 break or more, wins all the points.

The team that won the first set but is losing the 2nd set by 1 break or more, points are split.

A game in progress at the end of the time period is not counted.

RAIN INTERRUPTION SCORING:

If rain interrupts a match:

1. End the match and allocate the points according to the following guidelines
 - If the teams have split sets, the points for that court are split
 - If the team that won the first set is on serve, tied, or ahead by 1 break or more in the 2nd set: that team wins all the points
 - If the team that won the first set is losing the 2nd set by 1 break or more: the points for that court are split

SPECTATORS:

- May not talk to players on the court.
- May not coach, either verbally or visually, from the beginning of the warm-up to the end of the match.
- May not comment or make visual signals on line calls.
- May not cause any distractions to the players.
- May not get involved with any dispute between the players on the court. A captain may offer clarification on a match rule only if asked by a player.
- May not interrupt a match in progress for any reason. .
- May not sit on the court

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES:

All complaints, grievances, and appeals must be submitted in writing by the team captain within 48 hours of the incident.

Grievance procedures, forms and payment can be found at <https://www.usta.com/en/home/play/play-as-a-member/eastern/GrievancesandAppeals.html>.

A payment form must accompany your grievance and both should be emailed directly to the Eastern office at bull@eastern.usta.com. The \$25 fee will be refunded if the grievance is upheld.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Lauren Levine Levine@eastern.usta.com, 914-522-5253
Chris Dong Cdong@eatsern.usta.com, 914-705-3334